

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Black Sea) REPORT NO. 25X1  
 SUBJECT Port of Odessa DATE DISTR. 22 April 1954  
 NO. OF PAGES 2  
 25X1 DATE OF INFO. Late September 1953 REQUIREMENT NO. **FOR CRITICAL SECURITY REASON**  
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. During the latter part of September 1953, [redacted] in the port of 25X1  
 Odessa, [redacted] vessels anchored in the  
 naval harbor, which comprised three piers on the northern side (sic):
- There were two 1,600-ton destroyers which closely resembled Italian vessels in general outline and armament. These were probably Italian destroyers received by the USSR as war reparations.
  - The cruiser which was anchored in the harbor displaced about 3,500 tons and had two superimposed twin 120-150 mm. gun turrets forward and two twin 120-150 mm. gun turrets aft. There were two stacks. The after stack was much lower than the forward stack.
  - Two 1,700-ton military transport vessels were in the naval harbor. Each vessel had two 90-100 mm. guns, one forward and one aft.
  - There were ten patrol vessels, each of which had a gross tonnage of 300 or 400 tons. Each patrol vessel had four 20 mm. machine guns. These ships escorted merchant vessels in and out of the harbor.
2. The training ship DUNAY was anchored in the roads. The DUNAY was equipped with its original sails.
3. Three hulls, which apparently had been salvaged from the harbor, were moored at quays in the southern part of the port, where they were being repaired and refitted. Informant estimated that the hulls each displaced from 3,500 to 5,000 tons.
4. About 50 jeeps were observed in the area of the port which was reserved for the loading and unloading of military materiel. Informant did not know whether the jeeps were to be shipped out of port, or whether they had just been unloaded on the pier. There were no vessels moored in the immediate vicinity.

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
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25X1

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- 25X1 5. On two non-consecutive nights during the period from 20-30 September 1953  
[redacted] the following:

25X1 a. The coastal batteries south of Odessa were engaged in AA firing practice.  
[redacted] numerous aircraft but [redacted] no tracer bullets. 25X1

b. Two naval vessels were engaged in firing practice south of Cape Fontana  
(N 46-23, E 30-35). Neither of these vessels was observed in port.

c. Heavy caliber gunfire, very likely from coast artillery batteries, was  
heard near Mangalia, Romania. Informant was quite certain that heavy  
caliber guns were firing, because the rumble produced by the guns was  
clearly audible when his ship was over 50 miles from the coast.

6. There were many searchlights along the coast from Cape Kaliakra (N 43-22, E 28-28)  
to the port of Odessa. Vessels in transit along the coast were kept under  
close surveillance by armed patrol vessels. Ships which were near the port  
were often kept under observation by small aircraft.

7. [redacted] 25X1

- 25X1 8. Food was scarce in the city and the clothing of the townspeople was of in-  
ferior quality. [redacted] the townspeople lived in an atmosphere  
of fear and were distrustful of one another.

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